

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 27, 2005

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 12, 2005

SENATE BILL

No. 655

Introduced by Senator Ortiz

February 22, 2005

An act to add Section 25928 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to asbestos.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 655, as amended, Ortiz. Asbestos task force.

Existing law provides for the Asbestos Assessment Task Force, composed of representatives from the State Department of Health Services, the Department of Industrial Relations, the Department of General Services, and the Commission on Building Standards, to analyze the magnitude of the asbestos problem in public buildings.

This bill would require the California Environmental Protection Agency (*Cal-EPA*) to convene a task force, consisting of representatives of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the State Air Resources Board, the State Department of Health Services, and if they agree to participate, representatives of Region IX of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry of the United States Department Health and Human Services to evaluate policies and adopt guidelines for the mitigation of risks associated with naturally occurring asbestos. *The bill would also require Cal-EPA to request the participation on the task force of 4 representatives from the air quality management districts, who are selected by these districts, in areas that are impacted by naturally occurring asbestos.*

The bill would prohibit Cal-EPA from convening that task force to take those actions until federal funds are received by the agency for that purpose.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 25928 is added to the Health and Safety
2 Code, to read:
3 25928. *The (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the*
4 California Environmental Protection Agency shall convene a task
5 force, consisting of representatives of the Office of
6 Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the Department of
7 Toxic Substances Control, the State Air Resources Board, the
8 State Department of Health Services, and, if they agree to
9 participate, representatives of Region IX of the United States
10 Environmental Protection Agency and the Agency for Toxic
11 Substances and Disease Registry of the United States Department
12 of Health and Human Services to evaluate policies and adopt
13 guidelines for the mitigation of risks associated with naturally
14 occurring asbestos.*The California Environmental Protection*
15 *Agency shall also request the participation on the task force of*
16 *four representatives from the air quality management districts,*
17 *who are selected by those districts, in areas that are impacted by*
18 *naturally occurring asbestos.*
19 *(b) The California Environmental Protection Agency may only*
20 *implement subdivision (a) with federal funds, and shall not*
21 *implement subdivision (a) until federal funds are received by the*
22 *agency for that purpose.*